



DISCIPLE EXPRESS

Vol. 22, No 13 January 2014 A Newsletter to Inspire and Celebrate Oakland United Methodists

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Worship Service Time:

10:00 Worship
11:00 Koinonia

Sunday school
Youth 9:00 a.m.
Adult 11:15 a.m.



Sunday school bell
choirs performing
during worship.



Ryan and Courtney Long transferred their
membership to OUMC in October. With
them are Jacen and Jaxton Long. Jacen
will be baptized February 2nd.





Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When you go to the Iowa United Methodist web page (www.iaumc.org) at the very top of the page are listed the links to: Log in, Districts, Staff, Find a Church, Clergy/Laity, and the dreaded - **Forms**. When you click on **Forms** you are taken to a page that has no less than 24 Form Types. Even the church is not given a reprieve when it comes to completing required forms. However, there is one form I actually enjoy completing. The form I am referring to is the *Rainbow Covenant Report Form*. This is the form where all the yearly mission work of the church is recorded.

The form is divided into three kinds of mission work: First Mile Giving, Second Mile Giving, and Third Mile Giving. First Mile Giving occurs when a church's apportionments are paid in full. Second Mile Giving includes the Six Special Sunday Offerings we take (such as Human Relations Day, One Great Hour of Sharing, World Communion Sunday) and *other* missions we support during the year. The various Second Mile Givings are categorized by colors, hence the name of the form, the **Rainbow Covenant Form**.

Purple is the color of our Six Special Offerings. The other colors are indigo, blue, green, yellow, orange, and red. Some of our *other missions* that are listed under the previously mentioned colors are:

Builders Call

Latino Center

Layettes

Heifer Project

Habitat for Humanity

Imagine No Malaria

The third kind of mission work, Third Mile Giving, includes missionary salary support and local giving.

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In 2013, we financially supported the missionary, Larry Kies. Our local giving included the following:

Aid & Assistance

Soles for Souls

Shoe Box Angels

Ecumenical Youth Group

Angel Tree Gifts

This is not an all inclusive list of the missions you have supported this year. The Rainbow Covenant Form Report is not due until February 1 (why rush, right?) Hopefully by then it will be complete. But the Good News is this report reveals that you are a missional church. You have heard the call of God to share what you have been given with others. This is one form it is a joy to complete!

Thank you for giving. Your giving does make a difference in the lives of countless people. You are proof of the scriptural truth as written in 2 Corinthians:

“And God, who supplies seed for the sower and bread to eat, will also supply you with all the seed you need and will make it grow and produce a rich harvest from your generosity. He will always make you rich enough to be generous at all times, so that many will thank God for your gifts, which they receive from us. For this service you perform not only meets the needs of God's people, but also produces an outpouring of gratitude to God.

And because of the proof which this service of yours brings, many will give glory to God for your loyalty to the gospel of Christ, which you profess, and for your generosity in sharing with them and everyone else.” (2

Corinthians 9:10-13)

Blessings,

Pastor Karen

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Ecumenical Youth Group News

On Wednesday evening, January 8, the youth participated in a service project. Sharon Jones showed the youth how to cut plastic bags into strips, tie the strips together, and roll them into balls. The plastic strips will be passed on to people who volunteer their time to crochet the strips into plastic mats to be given to the homeless.

Welcome!

We welcome Ryan and Courtney Long into the membership of the Oakland UMC. Ryan and Courtney were received into membership by letter of transfer from the Tekamah First UMC on Sunday, January 12. Ryan and Courtney have two children, Jaxton and Jacen. We welcome you in Christian love.

Ainslee Jo and Tenslee Jo, daughters of Chris and Alyssa Hamilton were baptized during the December 29th worship service. We celebrate this special time in the life of the church and in the lines of Ainslee and Tenslee and their family.

Mark Your Calendar

Rev. Melissa Drake, Southwest District Outreach Minister, will be the guest preacher at the February 16th worship service. Following the worship service, we will share a potluck meal in Fellowship Hall. After the meal, Rev. Drake will lead us in a time of visioning for our church. I pray you will come and participate in the worship service and join in the meal that will follow. I also pray you will be able to stay for a time of visioning for our church, a time to discern God's dream for the Oakland UMC.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Karen

Adult Sunday School

The Adult Sunday School Class that meets following the worship service until noon has started a new study. The study is a DVD study based on Max Lucado's book, Fearless. Upcoming lessons discuss the following common fears: Fear of Not Mattering, Fear of Disappointing God, Fear of Life's Final Moments, Fear of Global Calamity, and Fear of God Getting Out of My Box. We invite you to join us! This is a very relaxed class. No prerequisites required!

Sermon Series

The lectionary readings in February are from Matthew's Gospel, chapter five. These readings are commonly called Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount" (Matthew 5-7). In these scriptures, Jesus teaches us what the kingdom of God is like. The Sermon on the Mount Sermon Series will begin on February 2. The Gospel Lesson for that Sunday will be Matthew 5:1-12.

Tribute to the Gaithers

Saturday, February 22, 2014

6:00 p.m. (doors open at 5:00 p.m.)

Salvation Army Church

715 North 16th Street

Council Bluffs, IA

For additional information call 712-325-6935

Performing are:

Altered by Grace

Glory Road

New Shoes Quartet

Risen Son Quartet

Witness

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January 21, 2014 david.hobbs@iaumc.org • P: 515.974.8913 • F: 515.974.8963 • www.iaumc.org

David Hobbs

LDM for Camping & Christian Formation

2014 Summer Camp and Retreat Season

“Get Real, Finding Your True Self in Jesus!”

I am so excited; we finally are into this wonderful year of 2014 and after several months of planning and preparing we have our cool new catalogs and are almost ready to go with our online registration, in fact it should be ready within the next week. We've already sent out roughly 6,000 catalogs to those who have been to camp in the past, plus all of our churches in the Conference will receive a packet that will include a couple catalogs, plus Worship options for your Camp Sunday, plus some other key resource ideas for your church to use.

If you've never been to camp then this really is the year for you to consider coming or sending someone. So many youth are so busy with so many things in their lives today, in fact we know as camp professionals that being able to get away for some of these youth may be the one chance during the summer (or whole school year for that matter) where they can have some peaceful, quiet time to discover themselves and to know what purpose God has for their lives. Every year when we send out surveys to our camp participants and their parents, one of the key things we always hear about is how they see a change in their children. Often times it's an excitement for Christ and a change that is visible to the parent in how the youth is more open and sharing to them and to others. The one that I hear quite often is that there is a peace of heart, and a change of spirit within their son or daughter. It's as though a light switch was turned on.

We see it all the time, and I believe it has nothing to do with our team necessarily, it's a total work of God. Whether it's a child or an older adult, when you get

into God's great outdoors, to His great Creation, you see just how wonderful and awesome our God is. Without cell phones, computers, or televisions to distract us from the great beauty of the outdoors, we see changes like no other in the lives of those who come to one of our beautiful sites to simply be with God. Though there are so many fun things to do such as canoeing, swimming, fishing, carnivals, caving, horseback riding, etc., we always make sure that our primary purpose is still to let God's grace work through the hearts of these young folks. This year isn't any different and our theme and goal this summer is to “Get Real, Finding your True Self in Jesus!” Every child has extreme worth in God's eyes because God created them in God's image and we want every child and youth to know this value. So our curriculum and whole programming this summer revolves around this key concept that ‘you are loved’ no matter what.

Now to give you a flavor of some of the cool programming we have this summer, let show a few of the camps we're offering at each site:

LAKE OKOBOJI CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

- Guardian & Angel Camps
- Okoboji Family Camps
- Go-Kart Camp
- Amusement Park Camp
- Dance Camp
- Adventure Camps
- Short Stacks

WESLEY WOODS CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

- Super Sleuths
- Whinny at the Woods
- The Ultimate Quest
- Latino Bilingual Youth Christian Camp
- Stars Spectacular
- The Mane Event
- Camp Hope

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PICTURED ROCKS CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

- Overnight Adventure with Mom and/or Grandma
- Family Adventure Weekend
- Encounter Mission Camp
- Girls Only Adventure
- Guys Only Adventure
- The Jump 1
- The Game

As you can see, there are a lot of wonderful and exciting camps you can become involved in, and this is just a small sampling of all of them. So I want to encourage each and every one of you to consider coming to camp this year. If you're a parent feel free to contact one of your Iowa UMC Camp and Retreat team members, and we'll share more about the summer's cool programming. We understand the concern that parents have when they send their child to any camp and we want you to know that we are ACA (American Camp Association) certified and we follow the highest safety standards in all of our activities, plus we have extensive safety training for all of our staff. We will continue to offer these high standards and also welcome your call if you have any specific questions about your child or the camp program you are looking at.

Finally, for all of those churches or ministries out there that work with youth, we want to encourage you to contact us at any of our sites or our conference center in Des Moines. We would love to come to your neck of the woods to share about camp and its benefits for those who attend. We have several resources we can offer you also, if you'd like to share without someone coming; this includes brochures and catalogs, plus a new video clip that shares about camp, Camp Sunday Worship materials, plus some cool PowerPoints that share some wonderful pictures. Whatever resource you need, we will certainly try to accommodate your need.

We are excited to have you at camp, so give us a call

and we'll share more of the fun things you can do at camp. Here is our contact information and resource material that will be helpful for you to know more about your Iowa UMC Camp and Retreats—many blessings from your Iowa UMC Camp team!

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www.iaumc.org/camps

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February Calendar of Events

February Daily Reading Guide

Sun, 2nd	9:00 a.m.	Sunday school/Women's Study
	10:00 a.m.	Worship/Communion/Baptism
	11:00 a.m.	Koinonia
	5:00 p.m.	Hispanic Service
Wed, 5th	6:30 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
Sun, 9th	9:00 a.m.	Sunday school/Women' Study
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:00 a.m.	Koinonia
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 p.m.	Hispanic Service
Wed, 12th	6:30 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
Sun, 16th	9:00 a.m.	Sunday school/Women' Study
	10:00 a.m.	Worship/ Rev. Melissa Drake to preach
	11:00 a.m.	Pot luck in Fellowship Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 p.m.	Hispanic Service
Wed 19th	6:30 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
Thu, 20th	7:00 p.m.	Ad Board Meeting
Sun, 23rd	9:00 a.m.	Sunday school/Women's Study
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:00 a.m.	Koinonia
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 p.m.	Hispanic Service
Wed, 26th	6:30 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group

1	1 Corinthians 13:1-13
2	1 Corinthians 14:1-25
3	1 John 2:1-17
4	1 John 3:1-18
5	1 John 4:7-21
6	John 3:1-21
7	John 3:22-36
8	John 4:1-42
9	John 4:43-54
10	John 5:1-18
11	John 5:19-47
12	John 6:1-24
13	John 6:25-71
14	John 7:1-24
15	John 7:25-52
16	John 8:1-30
17	John 8:31-59
18	John 9:1-41
19	John 10:1-21
20	John 10:22-42
21	Psalm 23
22	Psalm 51
23	John 13:1-20
24	John 13:21-35
25	John 14:1-31
26	John 15:1-17
27	John 15:18-16:15
28	John 16:16-33

13 Unusual Scholarships That Should Be on Your Radar Screen

Are you a high school or college student looking for scholarships to pay your tuition? Many scholarship administrators are desperately seeking applicants because of unusual restrictions that can make it hard to find students who fit the criteria. Cast your net wide, and apply for some of these out-of-the-ordinary scholarships.

Is your height unusual? Women taller than 5 foot 10 inches and men above 6 foot 2 inches can apply for a \$1,000 **Tall Clubs International Scholarship** for their first fall semester. Men and women shorter than four foot 10 inches can be awarded \$250 - \$1,000 from **Short People Scholarships**, offered by the Little People of America.

Interested in culinary school? Whether you're a future Food Network personality or you just really love peanut butter, you can enter the **JIF Most Creative Peanut Butter Sandwich Contest**. Children ages 6-12 create their own unique peanut butter recipes to compete for \$25,000 in JIF-sponsored scholarships. If you have a recipe for an apple pie that can't be beat, the **Culinary Institute of America's (CIA) All-American Apple Pie Recipe Contest** awards one lucky winner \$25,000 in scholarship money.

Are you interested in crisis management? The **Zombie Apocalypse Scholarship** lets you show off your flair for emergency preparedness and disaster response with a 250-word essay explaining how you would evade zombies should they overrun your school. Your response must also include a list of five things you would bring with you to stay alive and could be worth \$2,000.

None of the more than 60 scholarship programs the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry's

Office of Loans and Scholarships is quite as quirky, but some do have unique criteria established by a donor who set up the fund in their will.

Allyson Collinsworth, executive director of the Office of Loans and Scholarships, said examples of these narrowly designed scholarships include funds for an orphan who lived in an orphan home during high school in the state of Texas, or for a member of a small rural church that has no students who are active members.

"Identifying qualified applicants can be a challenge at times," Collinsworth said. "Our application is programmed to screen for these specific criteria. We make every effort to find qualified applicants for all our scholarships each year. If we don't have a qualified applicant for something, we will go to churches, annual conferences, or colleges and universities for help in locating a recipient."

Collinsworth advises students to start looking for scholarships early and to complete applications in a timely fashion.

And don't rule out the oddball applications – something might be perfect for you. For example, are you a linguaphile or a Trekkie? The **Klingon Language Institute's (KLI) Kor Memorial Scholarship** offers \$500 scholarships each year to students pursuing a degree in a foreign language. Knowledge of the Klingon language is not required (but it may win you bonus points with the selection committee).

If fashion design is your call, consider the **Duck Brand® Duck Tape Stuck on Prom Contest**. It's simple: make your and your prom date's prom outfits entirely with Duck Brand® duct tape and send in your pictures to be judges. You will be the most talked about couple at prom, and you might win a \$5,000 college scholarship for your efforts.

(cont'd)

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Or, are you a carnivore or an herbivore? Either way, you're in luck. The **National Beef Ambassador Program** provides scholarships ranging from \$2,500 to \$250, or if you are a vegetarian high school student who promotes vegetarianism in your school or community, you could win a \$5,000 **Vegetarian Resource Group Scholarship**.

There really is money available for every talent, lifestyle, and quirk.

Maybe you have a peculiar hobby, such as duck calling, grape growing, bagpipe playing, or an enthusiasm for water bugs. Take a look at the **Sophie Major Memorial Duck Calling Contest**, **American Society for Enology and Viticulture Scholarships**, Pittsburgh's Carnegie Mellon University **Bagpipe Scholarship**, and/or the **LaFontaine Aquatic Entomology Scholarship**.

These are only a few of the many unusual, quirky scholarships out there that have large sums of money available for students, so long as applicants can meet their strict criteria.

To learn more about GBHEM loans and scholarships, go to General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

Burdakin is editorial and production assistant, Office of Interpretation, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

Tuesday, January 7, 2014 - 10:26

Nicole Burdakin



Iowa State University

This Spring semester the Wesley Foundation at Iowa State University is starting a new project,

to share their university experiences with high school students across the state so the high-schoolers might be better prepared for what comes next.

In the very near future, high school juniors and seniors will be invited to come to Collegiate/Wesley (or connect via Google Hangout and/or Skype) and listen as ISU Wesley students reflect on their time at Iowa State...The highs and lows of their university experience, things they NOW know which they wish they'd known a few years ago, their biggest surprises, the role their relationship with God has played in their college life, etc.

After the college students have shared, they'll respond to questions from the high-schoolers. Our plans also include transcribing the wisdom and insight from these conversations and getting printed copies into the hands of United Methodist youth groups all over the state.

We'll try our best to publicize the date of the event but, if you want to be certain you're contacted, drop an email to Rev. Jim Shirbroun, Campus Pastor (jim@cwames.org).

University of Northern Iowa

At Threehouse: A Wesley Foundation, we will be doing a lot of listening, eating, worshipping, serving and gathering this semester. We are considering re-introducing a new form of Peer Ministry, but with different names. They will be concentrating on hospitality leaders. We are looking at a Spring trip the week after the semester concludes. In general, we are figuring out how to live into the slogan "Rooted in Faith; Free to Branch Out". We continue to offer a ministry that is centered on a comfy, creative and open minded community.

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ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MINUTES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Members Present: Pastor Karen Hoff, Veva Larson, Dick & Louise Merkle, Lyle Bentley, Norma & Bernie Bolton, Skip Applegate, Terry Gleaves
Bernie called the meeting to order and Pastor Karen opened the meeting with prayer.

Secretary's Report was read. Norma moved to approve as corrected, Lyle seconded. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report was explained. Norma moved to approve, and Skip seconded. Motion approved.

Finance Team: Terry Gleaves went through the proposed 2014 budget, explained changes and noted corrections. Veva moved to approve, Lyle seconded. Motion approved. We have received 77 pledges, (24 of those are auto withdrawals) for just over \$100,000. This is an increase!

Board of Trustees: Dave has put in a new light switch in the bedroom and lights downstairs. The electric fireplace in the family room was repaired and now works. There is a new outlet behind the refrigerator. The upstairs bathroom will be updated next spring.

Staff-Parish Relations Team: The parsonage was inspected (regular annual inspection) and a list made of repairs needed.

Pastor's Report:

Calendar: Pastor Karen led the Memorial service for Tom Bartlett. She recently attended an RCA Meeting. December 2nd there is a Hispanic Team meeting scheduled. The Christmas Eve service will be at 9:00 pm.

Youth: At MYF, the youth have collected food products for the food pantry. Last night they had a Thanksgiving service in the sanctuary with communion served. In December they will go caroling at the nursing home.

Nominations: A printed list with all filled positions was shared. Blanks were left for those positions we are still waiting to hear from the person asked to fill it.

Dick moved to approve. Skip seconded. Motion Approved.

Education: There will be no Sunday School December 1st.

The Christmas program will be December 15th. Sue Duhachek will try to get the kids working with the bells again.

Memorials: Lyle purchased an outdoor Nativity from Bright Ideas in Omaha instead of purchasing from the Missouri company. It is lighted, life size, and guaranteed for 5 years. The pieces he bought totaled \$707.20. More pieces can be purchased if we decide to do so.

New Business:

We will decorate for Christmas on November 24th, with Blimpie sandwiches served after decorating.

The Christmas Eve Service time will be 9:00.

UCC is at 6:00. Lutheran at 6:00. Christian at 8:00.

The RCA Thanksgiving Service and Dinner will be at the Carson Community building, Sunday, November 24th, at 6:00 p.m.

The Christmas Eve offering will be divided. Half will go to Imagine No Malaria, and the other half will go to Aid and Assistance to help local families.

We will also be doing an Angel Tree for children in the community. We are working with the school nurse to get information (no names) for church members to pick off the tree and buy a present. Presents will be collected and taken to the school for the school nurse to deliver.

The date to un-decorate for Christmas is January 5th, after church.

Old records (dating back into the 1800's) are in the upper shelf in the nursery. We will keep them there.

Our next meeting will be January 16th at 7 p.m. We will not meet in December.

Louise moved and Dick seconded that we adjourn the meeting. Meeting Adjourned.

We closed with prayer

Veva Larson, Board Secretary

January 3, 2014

Oakland United Methodist Church

Dear Karen Hoff and the members of the Oakland United Methodist Church,

We at Riverside Elementary want to take time to thank you all for the Christmas donations. Your kind generosity is truly appreciated.

The Methodist Church provided for three families that would not have otherwise been able to afford these extra gifts. You have put smiles on the faces of both children and parents. And you have put a lot of extra time and effort into your generosity by shopping, wrapping, and delivering presents.

It is the support of amazing churches, businesses, organizations, and people like you and yours that make Oakland, Carson, and Macedonia a wonderful place to live and raise children. Thank you from all of us at Riverside.

May God bless you all,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Stanczak". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "S".

Chip Stanczak, Guidance Counselor

Riverside Elementary (712-482-6296)



Open Door Mission

Lydia House • Women and Family Crisis Center
Garland Thompson Men's Center • Rebuilding Lives Center
Permanent Supportive Housing • Timberlake Outreach Center



Breaking the Cycle of Homelessness and Poverty

January 8, 2014

Dear Pastor Karen,

As another year ends, I'm writing to thank you for the vital contribution you make to the ministry of Open Door Mission.

Your generosity enables us to make a difference for hungry and homeless men, women and children. And your special year-end gift of \$464.00 helps make the holidays a season of caring for the people who spend them here at Open Door Mission.

Your support shows our neediest neighbors that they are not alone and abandoned – that there are people who care and want to help them. This means so much to them – and us, too.

Psalm 113:7 says that God "...raises the poor from the dust..." Thank you for allowing Him to use you to help hungry, broken people break free from the streets and have an opportunity for a new and better life.

With gratitude,

Candace L. Gregory
President/CEO

Thank you for leaving a legacy of hope in your will.
"[enter your name], of [list your city and state], devise to
Open Door Mission/Lydia House, Omaha, Nebraska _____% of
my residuary estate for its unrestricted use and purpose."



**FOR YOUR RECORDS AND FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES
YOUR RECEIPT**

000291245

Oakland First United Methodist Church
200 N. Main St
Oakland, IA 51560-0606

12/31/2013
Donation of \$464.00

HUNGRY FOR
FOOD
Hungry for New Life.

Open Door Mission
2828 North 23rd Street East
P.O. Box 8340
Omaha, NE 68108-0340
Phone 402-422-1111 • Fax 402-422-0737
email: odm@opendoormission.org
www.opendoormission.org

No goods or services were received for this donation.

Coming Soon: *Made To Crave* Group Study

Is the motivation to meet your 2014 resolutions beginning to sway? Do you find the ability to make changes more difficult each day? Are you wanting to be healthier but find your daily vices to get you through the day more enticing? Come join us for a new way to look at making positive changes in your life.

Beginning mid-February, we will embark on a six-session video study with author, Lysa TerKeurst. Using *Made to Crave* video clips, participant's guide, the Bible and each other, we will discover the missing link between a woman's desire to be healthy and the spiritual empowerment necessary to make that happen. According to the author, we were made to crave. Craving isn't a bad thing. But we must realize God created us to crave so we'd ultimately always desire more of Him in our lives. Many of us have misplaced that craving towards overindulging in physical pleasures instead of lasting spiritual satisfaction. For a woman struggling with unhealthy eating habits, *Made to Crave* will equip her to: *Break the 'I'll start again Monday cycle' and start feeling good about herself today *Stop beating herself up over the numbers on the scale and make peace with the body you've been given *Discover how your weight loss struggle isn't a curse but rather a blessing in the making *Replace justifications that lead to diet failure with empowering Go-to Scriptures that lead to victory. *Eat healthy without feeling deprived * Reach your healthy weight goal while growing closer to God through the process. This group study can also be helpful for those dealing with other vices than unhealthy eating habits.

Sessions will be 1 hour in length and will be held on **Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm** at the Oakland United Methodist Church. The goal start date is **Wednesday, February 19th**. Please contact Kristy Rieken at 402-658-4856 (call or text) or the church office with your commitment to crave God more. Not quite sure if you are ready to make the changes – no worries. Come check out the group and let God help you decide.

Art of Marriage

Marriage, the way God intended it to be, is a true art form. That's why for more than 35 years, Family Life has been helping couples understand God's plan for relationships. The Art of Marriage video event weaves together expert teaching, real-life stories, humorous vignettes, and more to portray both the challenges and the beauty of God's design.

In The Art of Marriage, over 40 ministry leaders provide the expert teaching while couples who have struggled with real-life issues openly and honestly share their stories of pain, loss, forgiveness and grace. The Art of Marriage video event is designed for a weekend event (Friday eve, Saturday morning/afternoon) in a church, community or home setting. The six engaging video sessions are interspersed with projects for couples to complete to reinforce lessons. Since its release in 2011, more than 400,000 have participated in The Art of Marriage video event and small-group series, with 97% saying they would recommend it to other couples.

Oakland United Methodist Church will be offering the Art of Marriage soon. Please notify the church office if you are interested in participating.

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NURSERY

VOLUNTEERS



- 2nd Norma Bolton
- 9th Cyndy Haines
- 16th Kyra Martens
- 23rd Sheila Applegate



USHERS, GREETERS, CANDLELIGHTERS



- 2nd Dana & Tami Palmer
Chris & Alyssa Hamilton
- Candle lighters
Eric & Calvin Duhachek

- 9th Terry & Amy Gleaves
Sid & Tami Skank

- Candle lighters
Grace Gleaves & Camryn Pierson

- 16th Fred & Joyce Henry
Grant & Alison Henry

- Candle lighters
Anna Duhachek & Emma Ehmke

- 23rd Mike & Kristy Bane
Bob & Beverly Beckendorf

- Candle lighters
Kyler Rieken & Andrew Jones

KOINONIA

- 2nd Pam & Emma Ehmke
- 9th Marsha Beedle & Jodi Gute
- 16th Pot Luck for Rev. Melissa Dr...
- 23rd Veva Larson



5:00 p.m. Hispanic Worship Service

- | | Host | Nursery |
|------|-----------------------|----------------|
| 2nd | Cathey Grosvenor | |
| 9th | NEED VOLUNTEER | |
| 16th | Pastor Karen | |
| 23rd | NEED VOLUNTEER | |

Sunday School Teachers

	2nd	9th	16th	23rd
Pre K	Leigh	Carrie	Lindsey	Jodi
K-1st	Jodi	Jamie	Lynelle	Leigh
2nd-4th	Jen	Sue	Karen	Pam
5th-7th	Pastor Karen			
Music	Pam			

Mark your calendars! The Sunday School kids will sing at the Oakland Manor on Sunday, February 9th. Please have your children arrive around 9:00 am. They have asked us to sing up and down the hallways. We will probably spend about 20-25 minutes there and then return to the church for class.

March 30 will be Heifer International Sunday with the usual chicken dinner.

**THANK YOU
VOLUNTEERS!!!!!!
YOU'RE THE GREATEST!!!**

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Applegate, Dave
- 2 Beedle IV, Hank
- 4 Ana Wilson
- 6 Waggoner, Ron
- 6 Wright, Keaton
- 6 Pierson, Allyee
- 7 Beedle, Collette
- 7 Roller, Drake
- 9 Carley, Carol
- 9 Henderson, Ellyanna
- 10 Hackett, Arlene
- 10 Jeppesen, Mark
- 10 Jacobsen, Christan
- 13 White, Tim
- 13 Parkhill, Nathan
- 14 Forrester, Dave
- 14 Kinnison, Larry
- 14 Allen, Dave
- 15 Haines, Cyndy
- 16 Copenhaver, Robert
- 17 Carley, Erica
- 17 Bane, Grant
- 18 Parker, Debbie
- 19 Applegate, Ilene
- 19 Hildebrand, Jackie
- 19 Putnam, Lisa
- 22 Gleaves, Alex
- 22 Bane, Brookelyn
- 23 Skank, Brianna
- 24 Hamilton, Tenslee
- 24 Hamilton, Ainslee
- 25 Kelly, Amy
- 27 Schueman, London
- 28 Martens, Kyra



REMEMBER OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN



Kristie Copenhaver, John & Mary Lou Copenhaver's daughter; **Jared Myers**, son of Robert Myers and Sid & Tami Skank; **Sonja Husz**, Niece of Butch & Velda Husz; **Lucas Smith**, Addie Mae's grandson; **Brian Thornton** from Avoca; **Tyler Clark**, Marvin & Carolyn Clark's grandson; **Brad Grosvenor**, Cathey Grosvenor's son stateside, and other area service men and women. **Landen Pedersen**, son of Tab and Lorie Pederson.

If you have a loved one in the service and wish to have them listed on our prayer list, please contact the church office.

TOP TEN PREDICTIONS FOR 2014

With all the problems the World is facing, it can be unsettling to the mind. Today, I share with you ten predictions that are true!

1. The Bible will still have all the answers.
2. Prayer will still be the most powerful thing on Earth.
3. The Holy Spirit will still move.
4. God will still honor the praises of His people.
5. There will still be God-anointed preaching.
6. There will still be singing of praise to God.
7. God will still pour out blessings upon His people.
8. There will still be room at the Cross.
9. Jesus will still love you.
10. Jesus will still save the lost when they come to Him.

NURSING HOMES - Remember those in the nursing homes with cards and visits.

Oakland Manor: Margaret Alff, Audrey Hartje, Dorothy Martens, Lucille Bentley, Erma Cleaveland,

Oakland Heights: Janice Harris, Pat Burgett, Neuonia Timberman

Risen Sun Christian Village: Max Hummel



Disciple Express

Making disciples
Transformation of world
Partner with God Wesleyan Christians
Love God
Engage beyond church
Share beliefs

Reach out **Evangelism**
Welcome strangers
engage beyond church intentional discipleship

By The Rev. Heather Heinzman Lear*

Jesus summed up our job as disciples in two tasks: Love God and love neighbor.

As Christians who live out our faith in the Wesleyan tradition, we are challenged to engage in this task throughout our lives, seeking to grow a little deeper in our love for God and neighbor each day. This growth occurs as we worship, spend time in the Scriptures and prayer, fellowship with other Christians, serve our neighbors — and join in God’s redemption of this world.

Incomplete understanding

Many of our congregations have an incomplete understanding of what evangelism means in our Wesleyan tradition. Are we talking about accepting a set of prescribed beliefs? Is evangelism welcoming the stranger? Is it engaging in intentional discipleship practices? Is it reaching out and helping our neighbors? Or, is it all of the above?

Questions to consider

Here are some ways to practice sharing the story and seeking opportunities to share the Good News within the life of your congregation.

- Practice paying attention to God’s work in the world. Set aside time in your worship service, Bible study or Sunday school for people to share their God sightings. If you regularly share joys and concerns, it

might be helpful to reframe that time by asking, “Where did you see God this week?” or “Where did God allow you to be in partnership in Kingdom work this week?”

- Develop the art of storytelling. Use announcements (written or spoken) to share the impact of ministry. Don’t just give the what, when and where, but tell the story of how the spent resources made a difference. Help individuals articulate personal faith journeys and invite the congregation to share their stories with one another. Pastors, have your congregations heard your faith story?

- Have the leadership teams spend time discerning God’s mission and will for your congregation. Set aside time in each committee meeting for evaluation. How are your facilities being used to share God’s love? Is your budget built to benefit church members, or are your spending resources on those outside the church? Practice Dwelling in the Word or Lectio Divina at your church council or administrative board meeting, listening for God’s leading.



Come join us

as we celebrate our 100 year old building.

Celebration service –Saturday, February 1

@ 10:30 a.m. with a lunch following

Griswold United Methodist Church

100 Cass St.

Disciple Express

History of Hymns: "That Boy-Child of Mary"

by C. Michael Hawn

"That Boy-Child of Mary"

Tom Colvin United Methodist Hymnal, No. 241

That boy-child of Mary was born in a stable,
a manger his cradle in Bethlehem.

What shall we call him, child of the manger?
What name is given in Bethlehem?

His name is Jesus, God ever with us,
God given for us in Bethlehem.*

Thomas Stevenson Colvin (1925-2000) was a Scottish minister and missionary. Trained as an engineer, he left a position in this field to attend Trinity College, Glasgow, as a divinity student. Ordained by the Church of Scotland in 1954, Colvin was a pastor of a London inner-city parish for eight years and a missionary in Africa for 26 years -- serving mostly in northern Ghana and Malawi (then Nyasaland).

A member of Scotland's Iona Community for almost fifty years, he lived the rule of this Community in his service to others and sense of Christian justice. He died of a heart attack in Edinburgh on February 24, 2000.

In concert with his commitment to the rule of Iona Community members, Colvin's missionary ministry was characterized by justice issues such as Christian service committees, refugee resettlement, and community development projects. Among his many activities, Colvin participated in community development training in parts of southern Africa and aided refugees from Mozambique seeking sanctuary in neighboring Malawi. These areas of service were the focus of Colvin's ministry rather than the development of indigenous congregational song.

The songs collected by Colvin have been spread by members of the Iona Community around the world. Several of his texts set to African melodies have found a home in Western hymnals. Colvin nurtured new African congregational songs by adapting local melodies and writing new texts appropriate for African Christians and,

as it turns out, Christians around the world. He introduced his hymns first to the Iona Community and then beyond in two collections, *Free to Serve* (1969) and *Leap My Soul* (1976). These collections were brought together in a single volume, *Fill Us with Your Love* (1983). A last volume, *Come, Let Us Walk This Road Together*, was added in 1997.

Colvin served in Africa at a time of rising nationalism and African independence from colonial powers. In many cases, Colvin wrote Christian texts for existing African tunes. "That Boy-Child of Mary" uses a melody from Malawi. The text was written in 1967 for St. Michael's Cathedral in Blantyre, Malawi.

Many African Christians find a connection between the naming of Jesus in the temple (Luke 2:22-38) and the meaning of names given to newborn children in Africa. African names often express the child's place in the family, aspirations for the child, and, among Christians, may include a biblical name.

An African baby-naming ceremony is a festive family gathering, often eight days after the baby's birth. Following a lavish meal, various family members submit names. The father announces the names and their meanings. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the baby's name is revealed to all gathered, and the infant is passed around to everyone. Names in African communities have power.

This hymn is a baby-naming song for the infant Jesus. The stanzas alternate between a question and response. Like a baby-naming ceremony in many African cultures, the stanzas of this hymn tell the meaning of Jesus' name -- "God ever with us." A later stanza places Jesus in our family -- "Gift of the Father to human mother makes him our brother." Finally, this newborn child carries the hopes for the whole world because he has come to save us.

* © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. Dr. Hawn is distinguished professor of church music at Perkins School of Theology. He is also director of the seminary's sacred music program.

Opportunity

Salem United Methodist Church is seeking a Coordinator of Children and Youth Ministries. This person would coordinate volunteers and activities for young people from infancy through school at both our main and Manawa sites. Interested applicants may call Salem UMC at (712) 366-1408 for a full job description. Resumes may be faxed to (712) 366-1409.

Karl Jacoby, Director Of Worship
Salem UMC
14955 Somerset, Council Bluffs, IA 51503
712-366-1408-work; 712-366-1409-fax
www.cbsalem.org
Gather, Grow & Go!

GO SOLAR

The use of solar energy is the buzz these days as we find alternative ways to use less fuel.

Nigeria is a country that has lots of sunshine so why not utilize it to run small chest size refrigerators in the church run schools (for food storage), clinics and dispensaries (for medicine storage) and agricultural programs (for vaccines)?

It is our plan to send two solar refrigerators to Nigeria in the sea container in March. The cost to purchase them along with the solar panels, modules and installation equipment is approximately \$1500 each. Let's harness the rays of the sun to power up the refrigerators as well as let the SON shine in their lives.

Contributions toward the cost of a solar refrigerator may be sent through your local church to the conference treasurer designated INP #230, Solar refrigerators.

-- Beverly Nolte

5221 Village Run Ave. #604
Des Moines Iowa 50317
515 266 4186

GODLY HUMOR

One summer evening, during a violent thunderstorm, a mother was tucking her small boy into bed. She was about to turn off the light when he asked with a tremor in his voice, "Mommy, will you sleep with me tonight?"

The mother smiled and gave him a reassuring hug. "I can't dear," she said. "I have to sleep in Daddy's room."

A long silence was broken at last by a shaken little voice saying, "That big sissy."

A rabbi said to a precocious six-year-old boy: "So your mother says your prayers for you each night? Very commendable. What does she say?" The little boy replied, "Thank God he's in bed!"

A woman invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to her six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?" I wouldn't know what to say," the little girl replied. "Just say what you hear Mommy say," the mother said. The little girl bowed her head and said "Dear Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"

"Do you believe in life after death?" the boss asked one of his employees. "Yes, sir," the new recruit replied.

"Well, then, that makes everything just fine." the boss went on, "because after you left early yesterday to go to your grandmother's funeral, she sopped in to see you."

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HOLY HUMOR

GOOD SAMARITAN

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?" A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, "I think I'd throw up."

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23 . She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task - but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line. On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know."

UNANSWERED PRAYER

The preacher's 5 year-old daughter noticed that her father always paused and bowed his head for a moment before starting his sermon. One day, she asked him why. "Well, Honey," he began, proud that his daughter was

so observant of his messages. "I'm asking the Lord to help me preach a good sermon." "How come He doesn't answer it?" she asked.

ALL MEN / ALL GIRLS

When my daughter, Kelli, said her bedtime prayers , she would bless every family member, every friend, and every animal (current and past). For several weeks, after we had finished the nightly prayer, Kelli would say, "And all girls." This soon became part of her nightly routine, to include this closing. My curiosity got the best of me and I asked her, "Kelli, why do you always add the part about all girls?" Her response, "Because everybody always finish their prayers by saying 'All Men!'"

SAY A PRAYER

Little Johnny and his family were having Sunday dinner at his Grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Little Johnny received his plate, he started eating right away. "Johnny! Please wait until we say our prayer." said his mother. "I don't need to," the boy replied. "Of course, you do" his mother insisted. "We always say a prayer before eating at our house." "That's at our house." Johnny explained. "But this is Grandma's house and she knows how to cook.

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"We invite all persons to be a part of our Community of Faith by participating in worship, education, fellowship and Christian service."

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January Trivia answers.

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Elisha 2 Kings 2:19-22 | 4. Naaman the Syrian 2 Kings 5:14 | 8. Jesus John 2:1-10 |
| 2. Jesus and Peter Matt 14:25-31 | 5. Gideon Judges 6:38 | 9. The Egyptians Exodus 14:21-29 |
| 3. He cast a tree into the waters Exodus 15:23-25 | 6. The Nile Exodus 7:20 | 10. A rock Exodus 17:1-6; 20:1-11 |
| 7. Elisha 2 Kings 2:19-22 | | |

BIBLE TRIVIA with hints

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. What New Testament woman was married to a priest named Zacharias? Luke 1 | fever by Jesus? Mark 1 |
| 2. Who begged her sister for some mandrakes, hoping they would help her bear children. Genesis 30 | 7. What wicked woman, wife of a wicked king, brought about the death of John the Baptist? Luke 3 |
| 3. To what woman did Jesus declare "I am the resurrection and the life"? John 11 | 8. How much time did cousins Mary and Elizabeth spend together during their pregnancies? Luke 1 |
| 4. Who sat at Jesus feet while her sister kept house? Luke 10 | 9. Who offered to bear the guilt if her scheme to deceive her aged husband was found out? Genesis |
| 5. What two women witnessed Jesus' tears over their dead brother? John 11 | 10. Who said to her husband, "Give me children, or else I die". Genesis 30 |
| 6. What disciples mother-in-law was healed of a | |